

**Rapides Parish Library  
Policies & Reconsideration of Materials Committee  
of the Board of Control  
November 4, 2024**

Minutes

A meeting of the Policies & Reconsideration of Materials Committee of the Rapides Parish Library Board of Control was held at the Huie-Dellmon House, 430 St. James Street, Alexandria, LA.

Committee members present were Ms. Irene Hobbs (Chair), Ms. Dana Cox, and Ms. June Arrington. Also present were Board President Le'Anza Jordan (Ex-Officio), Library Director Celise Reech-Harper, Assistant Director of Support Services Wes Saunders, and Administrative Assistant Kendra Bertrand.

Ms. Hobbs called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

**Agenda**

Ms. Cox motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Arrington seconded, and the motion passed.

**Review of Material for Reconsideration**

The children's graphic novel *Cross My Heart and Never Lie* by Nora Dasnes was presented for reconsideration based on a completed Request for Reconsideration Form submitted to the library. The request submitter requested that the item be reclassified as age-restricted material based on depictions of nudity. The form indicated that the submitter believed the material violated LA R.S. 25:225.

The committee reviewed the story and the illustrations in question. They discussed the recommended publication guidelines. The book's publisher, Penguin Random House, recommends the book for ages 10-13, and Kirkus indicated it was appropriate for ages 9-13.

The committee, having reviewed the item, determined that the nudity depicted in the book was not sexual or graphic in nature and was not inappropriate in the context of a coming-of-age story. Ms. Cox motioned to recommend to the Board that, according to standards set by LA R.S. 25:225, the title should remain as it is currently catalogued and placed in the Rapides Parish Library's collection. Ms. Arrington seconded, and the motion passed. In accordance with library policy, the committee will bring their recommendation to the Board at the next regular meeting on November 19.

With no further business before the committee, Ms. Cox motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Arrington. The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Celise Reech-Harper  
Secretary

Irene Hobbs  
Committee Chair